

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 7, 2014, 6:00 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members John Warshow, Chris Martin, and Andy Perchlik; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Jenny Warshow (Historical Society); Susan Green (Librarian); Ed Jalbert (Conservation Commission and Stranahan Stewardship Committee); Visitor: Ed Letourneau

At 6:35 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Selectboard Member John Warshow.

Changes to the Agenda: Ed Jalbert asked to be added to the agenda to update the Board on the Stranahan Town Forest.

History Center: Bobbi brought it to the attention of the Society and the Selectboard that because the Historical Society is incorporated and not a department of the Town, they are not covered by the Town's insurance. The Board discussed whether to make the Society a department of the Town. Andy moved to have the Hap Hayward History Room be a part of the library, if the Library Trustees approve. John seconded. Susan asked about the budget. She is reluctant to show another increase in the library budget for rent.

The costs for the History Center were discussed. The cost of the construction was \$2,729.52. Jenny suggested the Town should pay for ½ of the construction, and the rug. That would be \$2,996.16. She proposed having the library pay for ½ of the construction, the glass, the book cases, and the computer (estimated to be \$1,000). That would amount to \$6,372.56. If this proposal is accepted, the library would be using approximately 60% of the \$10,000 gift, and the town would be using about 60% of the \$5,000 appropriation. Jenny would also like to purchase archival storage materials for the collection. Bobbi reported that the Historical Society has \$2,000 in their checking account that could be used. The Board will not finalize the decision about how to allocate the expenses until Jenny has an estimate for what the storage materials will cost.

Dog Complaint: Ed Letourneau attended the meeting to complain about dogs on English Cemetery Road that bark incessantly. He indicated that the dogs bark even when people are home, and other times it seems like they are tied out when the people are not home. Bobbi stated that the people who own the property do not have any dogs licensed. John stated that the noise is covered by the ordinance, which states that the dogs may be impounded on the third offense. Ed stated that he has complained numerous times, and has talked to the Dog Officer about it. Chris stated that we should send the dog owners a letter, and we should speak with Jo to see what she has done. Chris asked Bobbi to contact Jo and ask her to submit a monthly report.

Stranahan Town Forest: Ed Jalbert addressed the Board about the timber sale in the town forest. He explained that he is a liaison between the Conservation Commission and the Stranahan Stewardship Committee. He explained that the County Foresters have marked trees for harvest. There are unmapped wetlands that did not get added to the management plan. They are "wet mesic" areas, which are sometimes under dispute. The County Foresters did not know about these wet areas when they did the marking. Ed went with Brett Engstrom and marked the edges of the wet areas. He

feels that we could cut up to the edges of the wet areas without making entry into the area. He flagged a skid road in the driest area. He stated that this is a job that could only be done in the coldest weather. Another issue is that the adjoining landowner has put up posted signs on what Ed believes is town property. Bobbi will get him copies of the surveys so that he can mark the boundaries. Andy questioned what the procedure is as far as who decides what to cut. Chris stated that he trusts the foresters to mark and harvest the timber in a way that will have little or no impact to the wetlands, without creating any ruts. The Selectboard has to decide how to treat the wet mesic areas. Ed thinks we should still harvest, but keep the machinery out of those areas. The Board asked that the Stranahan Stewardship Committee come to the next Selectboard meeting with a proposal for the Board to consider.

Insurance: The Board discussed the Town's insurance coverage. Bobbi will call VLCT with more questions.

Sand Pit: The gate to the sand pit has been flattened. The gate won't be replaced until after snowmobile season.

Open Meeting Law: Bobbi updated the Board on the open meeting law. The Board confirmed that their designated posting locations are the Post Office, the Marshfield Village Store, the Town Office, and the town website.

Bunker Hill Circle: John searched for the pins with a metal detector but did not find them. The Board took no other action.

Credit Cards: The Board authorized Bobbi to pursue options for accepting credit cards for the payment of taxes.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll. They approved the minutes of the September 16th with a minor revision, and the minutes of the September 29th meeting as drafted.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the October 7, 2014 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
